

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

INA STEINER, DAVID STEINER and
STEINER ASSOCIATES, LLC

Plaintiffs

vs.

CA No. 21-CV-11181-PBS

eBAY, INC. et al.

Defendants

VIDEO DEPOSITION of STEINER ASSOCIATES, LLC

by and through INA STEINER

Friday, August 30, 2024 - 10:12 a.m.

Ropes & Gray LLP

800 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts

Reporter: Jill K. Ruggieri, RPR, RMR, FCRR, CRR

objection?

MR. FROMSON: It's compound. It could be both.

MR. PIROZZOLO: Well, okay. All right.

BY MR. PIROZZOLO:

Q Do you understand the question?

A Could you repeat it, please?

Q Okay.

Are the -- are the relationships with the sources the relationship with the LLC?

A No.

Q Those relationships with the sources are with you?

A Yes.

Q And so whatever may happen with regard to the LLC, the relationships with the sources would travel with you, correct?

A Yes, yes.

Q And I'm not asking you for the names of sources, because that's currently a matter of dispute, so I'm not asking you that.

But I do want to know how many confidential sources you have.

1 MR. FROMSON: Can you just --
2 just objection as to form.

3 I have no objection to her
4 answering that number. Just your phrase -- use
5 of the term "confidential sources" as opposed
6 to just the sources.

7 I just don't know what you mean.

8 MR. PIROZZOLO: I'll clarify.

9 MR. FROMSON: Thanks.

10 BY MR. PIROZZOLO:

11 Q It's my understanding that you are
12 refusing to provide us the identities of any of
13 your sources, and you're doing so on the ground
14 of a thing called the source privilege,
15 correct?

16 A That's right.

17 Q And that objection would apply only
18 to sources that you deem to be confidential,
19 correct?

20 MR. FROMSON: Object as to form.

21 You can answer.

22 A Yes.

23 Q Well, if they're not confidential --

24 A Yes, right.

25 Q -- how could you resist providing us

1 that information, right?

2 MR. FROMSON: Argumentative, but
3 I'll let her answer.

4 A I answered the question.

5 Q So with that as a premise, with
6 regard to confidential sources, how many do you
7 have?

8 A It's a tough question to answer, only
9 because I've been reporting on e-commerce for
10 25 years.

11 So if you wanted to go back to
12 1999 and somebody said, "Hey, I want to tell
13 you this information but don't use my name,"
14 that, I would consider a source, and I would
15 object to providing that to anybody.

16 And so I never counted them, if
17 you... I don't know.

18 Q So let me ask some questions about
19 different categories of sources, okay, so in
20 terms of how you define a source.

21 So where does the information
22 come from when they're coming from confidential
23 sources, in your experience?

24 A I would say a majority are online
25 sellers who make part or all of their